MARVEL

BRING ON THE BAD GUYS

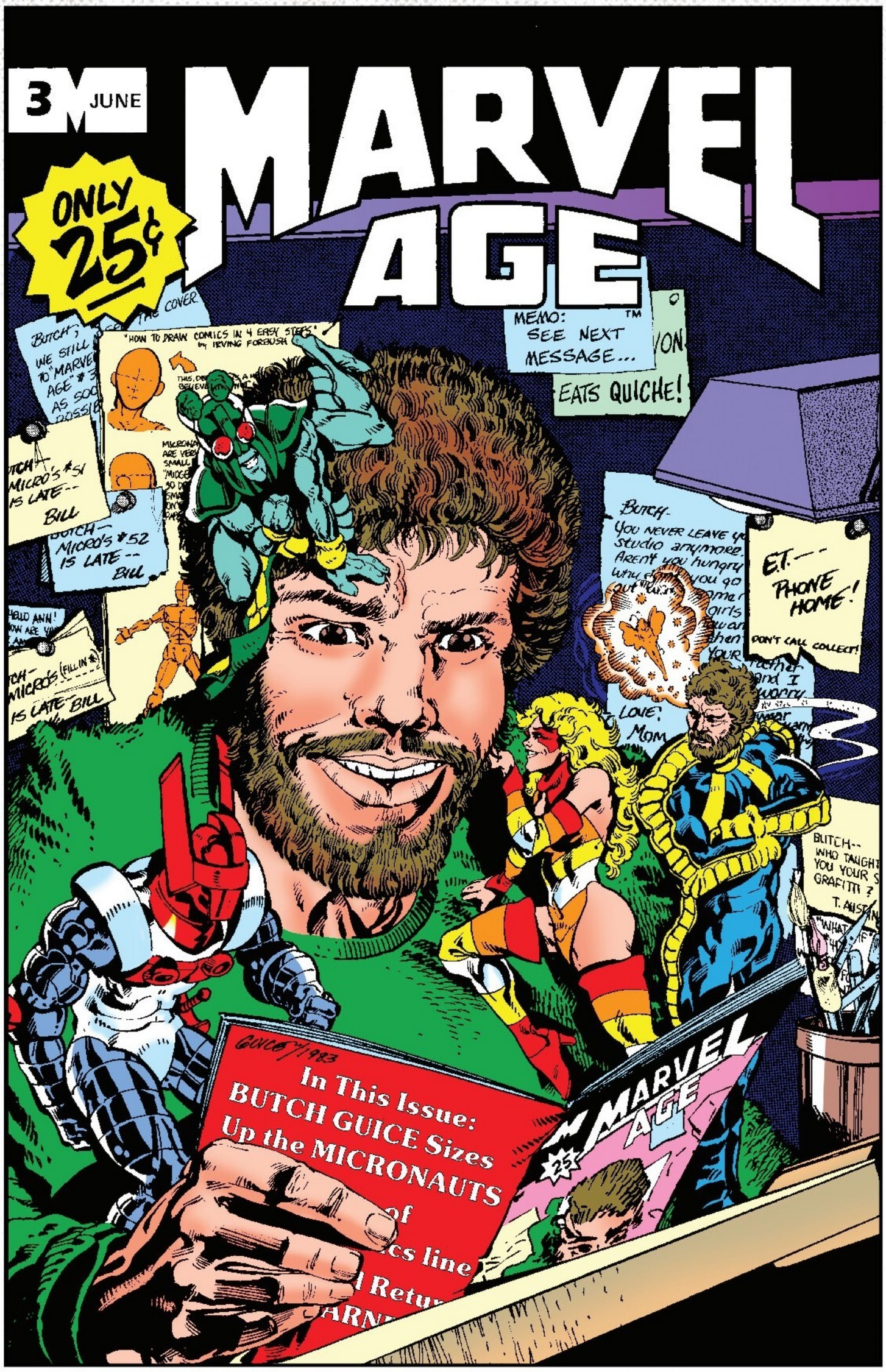
1

ABOMINATION

JOHNSON
GUGGENHEIM
DÁVILA
STA. MARIA
JIMENEZ
PRIANTO
SÁNCHEZ-ALMARA

RATED **T+**

BUTCH GUICE



Butch was one of the best craftsmen working in the comic book industry.

He had the skills of a classic era comics artist like John Buscema or Jim Steranko, and I think some of the work we did together on *Captain America* and the *Winter Soldier* will rank with the best of the best. He was a lot of fun to work with, and he was an underrated talent his entire career. I, and so many others, will miss him.

— Ed Brubaker

ON THE BAD GUYS

ABOMINATION

"WELL OF AGES"

The SOUL FORGE is an ancient artifact that can give whoever gains access to it control over all souls on Earth. The forge can only be utilized after a sacred incantation is delivered along with the souls of descendants from an ancient cult known as the LORDS OF DARKNESS. Whoever gains access to the Soul Forge puts the fate of the souls of the entire planet in danger.

As MEPHISTO and his reluctant disciple SISTER SORROW aim to power the forge, villains from throughout recent history are called upon to deliver the souls required...

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WAKANDA.
90 KILOMETERS FROM BIRNIN ZANA.

SHOULD WE START PACKING UP, PROFESSOR?

NOT YET. LET'S GET THESE LIGHTS RUNNING, GET IN ONE MORE HOUR ON THIS CORNER.

PROFESSOR?

IS THAT... ONE OF OUR LIGHTS OVER THERE?

IT CAN'T BE. THAT'S OUTSIDE OUR PERMIT ZONE.

SURELY THERE'S NOT A ***SECOND*** EXCAVATION CREW OUT HERE? WHO WOULD--?

I SWEAR, IF ADENIYI LEAKED TO THE PRESS ABOUT THIS DIG...

OH...MY GOD.

THIS IS MUCH... *MUCH* OLDER THAN ANYTHING WE'RE SEEING ON OUR SITE.

THOSE SWORD BLADES, AND THE STONEWORK... THESE ARE SOME OF THE OLDEST WAKANDAN RUINS I'VE SEEN, EVEN IN *PHOTOGRAPHS.*

WERE THESE WARRIORS BURIED GUARDING THE WELL?

THERE'S *LIGHT* COMING FROM DOWN THERE.

OH MY GOD. THESE ARE... *TOMB RAIDERS* OR SOMETHING.

LEAVE IT ALONE! LET'S JUST...CALL THE POLICE OR SOMETHING!

WHOEVER'S DOWN THERE, COME UP! YOU COULD BE DESTROYING HALF OF--

"COME UP"?

COME *DOWN,* BELOVED. *DRINK.*

DRINK FROM THE WELL OF *AKASHINGA...*

"...AND BE ONE WITH HIM."

A NAMELESS PRISON. 200 METERS BELOW THE CAPITAL.

THREE DAYS LATER.

YOU LOOK *YOUNG* TO BE HERE. HOW LONG HAVE YOU HAD LEVEL-SIX CLEARANCE?

UM... ...SINCE FIVE O'CLOCK THIS MORNING.

I'M AN *INTELLIGENCE ANALYST.* I MOSTLY ANALYZE THREATS DEALING WITH EUROPE.

I'M NOT SURE WHY I WAS CHOSEN FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT. BUT I WILL HONOR WAKANDA AS BEST I CAN.

OF COURSE.

DO NOT SPEAK TO IT MORE THAN IS NECESSARY. IT WILL ONLY TRY TO CONFUSE OR FRIGHTEN YOU.

I UNDERSTAND.

HE WILL NOT FIND ME SO...

...SO...

=AHEM=

GOOD MORNING, MR. BLONSKY.

MY NAME IS AKEYO MOKINYO. MY DEPARTMENT COORDINATES WITH THE DORA MILAJE, THE WAKANDAN ROYAL GUARD.

I'M HERE TO INFORM YOU YOUR REQUEST FOR EXTRADICTION TO YOUR HOME COUNTRY OF CROATIA WAS DENIED YESTERDAY...

...BUT THAT DUE TO *NEW CIRCUMSTANCES*, I HAVE BEEN GIVEN AUTHORITY TO OFFER YOU A DEAL.

HOW BIG IS IT?

...EXCUSE ME?

BEFORE I TURNED INTO ***THIS***, I WAS A SPY. A GOOD ONE.

BUT WAKANDA ALREADY HAS A SOLID INTELLIGENCE-GATHERING OUTFIT. YOU DON'T NEED ***ME*** FOR THAT.

MAYBE YOU WANT ***INFORMATION.*** I STILL KNOW WHERE THE BODIES ARE BURIED FROM MY ESPIONAGE DAYS.

BUT I'M ***"THE ABOMINATION."*** THERE'S NOTHING I COULD GIVE YOU THAT YOU WOULD TRUST.

WAKANDA'S GOT PLENTY OF TRAINED KILLERS ON PAYROLL...UNLESS YOU NEED SOME KINDA SUPERHUMAN SITUATION DEALT WITH. SO I'LL ASK AGAIN.

WHAT HAPPENED... AND HOW BIG IS THE THING YOU WANT DEAD?

WE'RE...STILL TRYING TO LEARN THE ANSWERS TO THOSE QUESTIONS.

BUT THE ***INCIDENT*** HAPPENED THREE DAYS AGO.

"A GROUP OF WAKANDA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS DISAPPEARED FROM AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG, NINETY KILOMETERS FROM THE CAPITAL.

"THEY BELIEVED THEY HAD FOUND THE RUINS OF A SUPPOSED 'LOST SETTLEMENT' THAT VANISHED CENTURIES AGO.

"LOCAL POLICE INVESTIGATED AND FOUND AN EXCAVATION SITE AND SEVERAL VEHICLES, BUT NO STUDENTS.

"...THE OFFICERS, TOO, DID NOT RETURN.

"AS OF YESTERDAY, LOCALS FROM NEARBY TOWNS HAVE BEEN SEEN WALKING TOWARD THE DIG SITE FROM ALL DIRECTIONS.

"SO FAR, NONE OF ***THEM*** HAVE RETURNED.

"TODAY, TWO MEMBERS OF THE GREAT DORA MILAJE WENT MISSING.

"WHICH BRINGS ME..."

...TO YOU, MR. BLONSKY.

SO. "LOST SETTLEMENT," HUH?

THE RUINS THEMSELVES APPEARED TO BE UNREMARKABLE, ASIDE FROM THEIR AGE.

I SPOKE TO THE STUDENTS' PROFESSORS AND READ THEIR RESEARCH. THE RUINS DO APPEAR TO BE WHAT THEY WERE LOOKING FOR.

BUT SATELLITE IMAGERY SHOWS SOMETHING ELSE NEARBY...MUCH OLDER, AND BURIED ***MUCH*** DEEPER. PERHAPS A SHRINE, OR A WELL. WE'RE NOT CERTAIN.

JUDGING FROM THEIR PERMITS, THE STUDENTS DID NOT EXPECT TO FIND IT. I'M NOT SURE IT WAS THEM WHO ***DID.***

WE'D LIKE YOU TO INVESTIGATE, MISTER BLONSKY. IF THERE'S A THREAT TO WAKANDA, WE'D LIKE YOU TO ***NEUTRALIZE*** IT.

IF YOU SUCCEED, I'VE BEEN GIVEN AUTHORITY TO GRANT YOUR FREEDOM AND TRANSPORTATION TO A COUNTRY OF YOUR--

DON'T TALK DOWN TO ME, KID.

AS SOON AS I FINISH THE MISSION, YOU'LL THROW ME IN AN EVEN ***DEEPER*** HOLE AND THAT'LL BE THE END OF IT.

THAT WAS VERY HONEST OF YOU, EMIL. I WILL EXTEND THE SAME COURTESY.

YOU'RE RIGHT. MY SUPERIORS ***DO*** INTEND TO BETRAY YOU.

BUT ***I*** AM THE ONE THEY CHOSE FOR THIS MISSION. AND EVEN IF YOU ***ARE*** A SO-CALLED "BAD GUY"... I AM ***NOT.***

IF YOU HELP US, EMIL, YOU ***WILL*** HAVE YOUR FREEDOM.

"I SWEAR IT."

WE'RE THIRTY SECONDS FROM THE DROP ZONE.

I SHOULD HEAR EVERYTHING THROUGH YOUR EARPIECE. IF YOU NEED HELP, SAY THE WORD.

THANK YOU FOR DOING THIS, EMIL.

I KNOW YOU PROBABLY FELT LIKE YOU DIDN'T HAVE MUCH CHOICE. BUT I PROMISE, I--

HOW'D YOU EVEN *GET* THIS ASSIGNMENT, KID?

YOU'RE NOT ***DORA MILAJE.*** NOT EVEN A ***FIELD AGENT.*** YOU'RE JUST AN ANALYST. NOT EVEN A ***SENIOR*** ANALYST.

AND THE OLD MEN YOU PUT YOUR FAITH IN PUT YOUR NORMAL-ASS ASS IN A ROOM WITH A ***MONSTER*** THAT COULDA ***KILLED YOU*** AT ***ANY MOMENT.***

I DON'T WANT TO TELL YOU HOW TO DO YOUR JOB...

...BUT MAYBE YOU SHOULD REASSESS YOUR LOYALTIES.

CLICK

THE DROP ZONE IS JUST BELOW AND TO THE NORTH, TOWARD THE ROAD.

I SAID *NORTH!*

THOSE RUINS ARE *PRICELESS* TO WAKANDA! DON'T--

DON'T TELL ME...

B O O O O O M

KRAKA-KOOM

COPY.

DIRECT YOUR DESCENT A BIT *NORTH,* PLEASE.

...HOW TO DRIVE.

RMM BBLL

SPOOOOOSH

RRMMMBBLLL

MOKINYO? YOU STILL READING ME UP THERE?

THERE'S A *CAVE.*

I THINK I SEE--

DRINK.

DRINK, STRANGER.

DRINK.

WHAT... THE HELL ARE YOU?

IS HE NOT BEAUTIFUL?

DRINK.

DRINK, STRANGER.

THEY ARE ONLY NEWLY REBORN.

DRINK.

DRINK.

THINGS OF FLOWER AND SOIL AND FLOWING WATER, WITH EYES THAT EXTEND INTO THE RIVER AND EVEN UNTO THE SEA.

WHO'S TALKING? WHERE ARE YOU?

I AM ALL AROUND YOU. I AM IN THE WATER NOW, AND THE SOIL.

MEN NAMED ME *AKASHINGA*, "THE BRAVE ONE." I WAS A MIGHTY SORCERER, AND WORKED MANY WONDERS.

BUT I WAS MORTAL, AND GREW FRAIL. A RIVAL CONVINCED MY PEOPLE I WAS A MERE *CHARLATAN*.

THOUGH I HAD SERVED MY PEOPLE DUTIFULLY, MY RIVAL AND HIS SONS CAME IN THE NIGHT AND *DROWNED ME* IN THE WELL.

BUT I WAS NO CHARLATAN.

I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, OLD MAN.

YOU WERE ***ONYILOGWU'S*** GRANDSON.* SOMEONE'S BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU.

TO JOIN MY FLOCK? TO LEARN THE SECRETS OF THE ARCANE?

*YOU MET GRANNY DEAREST IN ***BRING ON THE BAD GUYS: DOCTOR DOOM #1*** --KM

CRACK

NO.

IT'S YOUR *SOUL* HE NEEDS.

KABOOM

BUT...NO OFFENSE...

SPOOOOOOOOSHHH

...THERE'S NOTHING HUMAN *LEFT* IN YOU.

"HUMAN"?

SHLUCK

SKRRIIIIK

IT WAS HUMANS WHO DID THIS TO ME.

WHO SENT MY CONSCIOUSNESS WRIGGLING, SQUIRMING INTO THE MUD.

THOOOOOM

RRMMMBBBLLL

SEEKING PURCHASE AMONG THE GRUBS AND BEETLES AND SNAKES AND SIGHTLESS THINGS.

I PAID THEM FOR THEIR "HUMANITY." AND NOT JUST MY MURDERERS.

ALL MY PEOPLE WHO FAILED TO SAVE AN OLD MAN ASLEEP IN HIS BED.

HUMANITY IS NO GREAT PRIZE, WARRIOR.

MY FLOCK IS MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN EVER THEY WERE IN LIFE.

DON'T EXPLAIN YOURSELF TO ME, OLD MAN.

SHRIIIPP

I DON'T JUDGE YOU.

IT SOUNDS LIKE YOUR TRIBE BETRAYED YOU...

KATHOOOOM

...YOU FOUND A WAY TO SURVIVE, AND YOU *PUNISHED THEM* FOR IT.

SPSSSH

FOR WHAT LOOKS LIKE *FOREVER.*

KA-CRACK

KA-CRACK

I WOULD'VE DONE THE SAME.

HELL, I *HAVE.*

SHRRIIIIP

I JUST HAVE A JOB TO DO, THAT'S ALL.

WAIT.

WAIT, WARRIOR.

MERCY.

AS YOU SAY, WE ARE ALIKE. UNLIKE OUR FELLOWS, BUT LIKE ONE ANOTHER.

WE--

YEAH.

SORRY, OLD MAN.

SSCRUNNK

THAT'S JUST ONE MORE REASON TO PUT YOU OUT OF YOUR MISERY.

SPLOOSH

SPSSSHHH

SAVE US!

PLEASE, SAVE US!

THOOOOOM

SAVE US!

HE CHANGED US, BUT...W-WE'RE STILL ALIVE!

RRR

MMM

BBBB

LLL

RMMMBLL

THOOOOOM

ARE YOU?

OH MY GOD...

BLONSKY!

WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE ARE ALL THE MISSING PEOPLE?

I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN *INTELLIGENCE*.

WHERE DO *YOU* THINK?

YOU MEAN THEY'RE... YOU DIDN'T...

YOU JUST *LEFT THEM* TO--

DID YOU THINK YOU HAD *BLACK PANTHER* IN THAT CELL?

IF YOU WANTED LIVES SAVED AND KIDS TUCKED IN, YOU COULD'VE BROUGHT BACK YOUR EXILED KING. BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU DID.

TO QUOTE MY FAVORITE AFRICAN PROVERB:

"YOU KNEW WHAT I WAS WHEN YOU PICKED ME UP."

KEEP AWAY FROM ME.

STILL GONNA KEEP YOUR PROMISE AND LET ME GO? YOU'RE THE *GOOD GUY*, RIGHT?

I SAID *STAY BACK.*

I WARNED YOU, AGENT MOKINYO. SHOULD'VE WALKED AWAY.

WHY *DO* YOU THINK YOU PULLED THIS ASSIGNMENT?

WH-WHAT?

TOLD YOU, GIRL. I USED TO BE A *SPY.* I'VE STILL GOT LEVERAGE IN EVERY INTEL OUTFIT ON EARTH.

I CASHED IN MY LAST WAKANDAN CHIP TO GET THAT *WELL* DUG UP...AND TO GET *YOU* ON THAT HELICOPTER.

I OWE MEPHISTO A SOUL. AND THE THING I KILLED DOWN THERE WASN'T HUMAN ENOUGH FOR HIS PURPOSES.

BUT HE HAD BROTHERS, AND SISTERS... AND CHILDREN... AND THOSE *CHILDREN* HAD CHILDREN OF THEIR *OWN...*

...LEADING AT LAST...

WHAP

...TO YOU.

THOCK

THANK YOU, ANALYST MOKINYO.

I KNOW A LIFE AND A SOUL AREN'T THINGS ANYONE WANTS TO *LOSE...*

...BUT I PROMISE, THEY'LL BE PUT TO GOOD USE.

END.

ABOMINATION'S STORY WILL CONTINUE IN THE PAGES OF ***INCREDIBLE HULK!***

THERE IS AN OLD SAYING...

..."SPEAK OF THE DEVIL AND HE SHALL APPEAR."

THAT NIGHT-- THE *NIGHT* THAT CHANGED *EVERYTHING* FOR ME-- THE SAYING CAME *TRUE.*

RISE, MY CHILD.

WHAT THE HELL--?!

ACTUALLY, HELL IS MORE OF A *WHERE.*

I AM KNOWN AS "*MEPHISTO.*"

AND YOU ARE *SORANA,* I BELIEVE.

HOW-- HOW DO YOU KNOW MY *NAME?*

YOU *PRAYED* TO ME, REMEMBER?

I WAS *NOT* PRAYING TO *YOU...*

I SHOULD HAVE *RUN.* I SHOULD HAVE FLED FROM HIS FORKED TONGUE AS FAR AND FAST AS MY LEGS COULD TAKE ME.

DEAL WITH THE DEVIL

MARC GUGGENHEIM writer • MICHAEL STA. MARIA artist • DONO SÁNCHEZ-ALMARA color artist
VC's TRAVIS LANHAM letterer MIKEY J. BASSO editor MARK PANICCIA senior editor

BUT I *DIDN'T.*

PITY. I'D COME TO OFFER *HELP.*

WHAT *KIND* OF HELP?

THAT WHICH YOU WERE PRAYING FOR.

I CAN SEE YOUR FATHER *RELEASED* FROM PRISON.

...

HOW?

THE SIMPLEST OF BARGAINS: WE WOULD DO...*FAVORS* FOR EACH OTHER.

AS THOUGH *FRIENDS.*

BUT CLOCK'S TICKING. DADDY IS SET TO MEET WITH THE *GUILLOTINE* AT DAWN.

AND IF YOU FREED HIM...WHAT WOULD I OWE YOU?

OH, MY DEAR, SWEET CHILD...

...EVERYTHING, OF COURSE.

BUT YOUR FATHER WOULD BE *FREED* FROM PRISON--AND *SPARED* THE GUILLOTINE.

AND *THAT* WAS ALL I *CARED* ABOUT.

I WAS YOUNG. I HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING THAT BY *ACCEPTING,* I WOULD BE *SUBMITTING* MYSELF TO HIM UTTERLY.

TO COME INTO HIS UNHOLY SERVICE.

TO BE *TRANSFORMED...*

...INTO *SOMETHING ELSE.*

SOMETHING THAT DOES NOT FEEL.

SOMETHING THAT DOES NOT LOVE.

SOMETHING THAT DOES NOT AGE.

SOMETHING THAT ONLY CONNIVES AND SCHEMES AND *HUNTS* IN SERVICE OF HER MASTER.

THE TORMENTED SOULS IMPRISONED IN *HELL* BEGAN TO SPEAK A NAME IN *WHISPERS.*

BUT IT WASN'T *MY* NAME. IT WAS THE NAME OF THE... *THING* I'D *BECOME.*

SISTER SORROW.

SORANA *DIED* THAT TERRIBLE NIGHT...

...THE NIGHT SHE MADE A LITERAL DEAL WITH THE DEVIL.

BUT HE WAS, AS EVER, TRUE TO HIS WORD.

IT'S A *MIRACLE!* THE MAGISTRATE SAID HE HAD A CHANGE OF HEART!

IT WAS THE MOST *JOYFUL* MOMENT OF MY LIFE...

...AND THE *LAST* JOYFUL ONE.

HMM. SEEMS A *STORM* IS COMING...

WE SHOULD GET BACK TO THE *VILLAGE* BEFORE IT REACHES US.

AND SO WE *RAN.*

JOY SPEEDED OUR STEPS.

KERRACK

FATHER!!!

BUT MY FATHER *COULDN'T* OUTRUN HIS *FATE.*

I DIDN'T KNOW IT THEN, BUT I UNDERSTAND IT *NOW.*

THE DEVIL *ALWAYS* GETS HIS DUE.

AS I STOOD THERE--IN SHOCK--I WAS STRUCK WITH THE ENORMITY OF MY *MISTAKE.*

I'D PRAYED FOR MY FATHER'S *FREEDOM.*

NOT HIS *LIFE.*

OH, LOOK AT THAT...

THAT'S *UNFORTUNATE.* STRUCK BY *LIGHTNING.* I MEAN, WHAT COULD BE THE *ODDS?*

AT ANY RATE...

...IT'S TIME TO GO.

WE HAVE MUCH TO DO, YOU AND I.

TO BE CONTINUED... IN BRING ON THE BAD GUYS: LOKI!

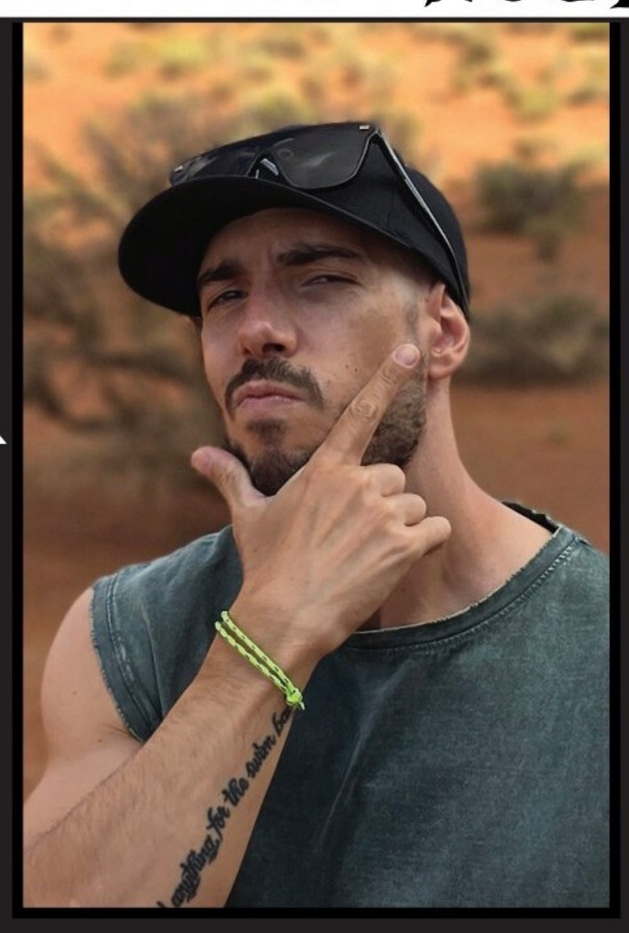
SPIDERS & SYMBIOTES

THE LOWE-DOWN

HEY THERE, WEB-HEADS! How is summer here already?!?! The only thing hotter than the temperature outside is this batch of Spider-Office books! Did we mention that there's a new Spider in the Spider-Office? We snagged MARTIN BIRO from the X-Office to join us in our nonsense! He's working with Jordan and co. over on Symbiote and Gamma stuff and taking the helm of all of our 20TH CENTURY books. So you'll see Martin working on aliens, apes from various planets, and, this month, Martin is launching PREDATOR: BLACK, WHITE & BLOOD! It's an anthology in the BW&B series, and it's awesome. There's also a big BRING ON THE BAD GUYS story going on, and we Spiders are doing the chilling GREEN GOBLIN and powerful ABOMINATION one-shots that are a part of it! Don't miss those or any of the other steamy Spider-Books coming out!

Keep Thwippin',
Nick Lowe
Spider-Editor

THIS MONTH'S HOST



NAME: Carlos Gómez

TITLE: Artist

WORKS ON:
ALL-NEW VENOM

WHO IS YOUR IRL SUPER HERO?

Carlos Pacheco because, even aside from his outstanding first name, he's been my favorite artist since I was 14 years old. It pains me that I won't get to read anything new from him.

WHICH SPIDER-MAN VILLAIN DO YOU MOST RESONATE WITH?

Tough question! I'd have to say Venom (I know, shocker!). Ever since I started reading Spider-Man comics, he was always the toughest and baddest guy around—and I loved him in the '90s cartoon!

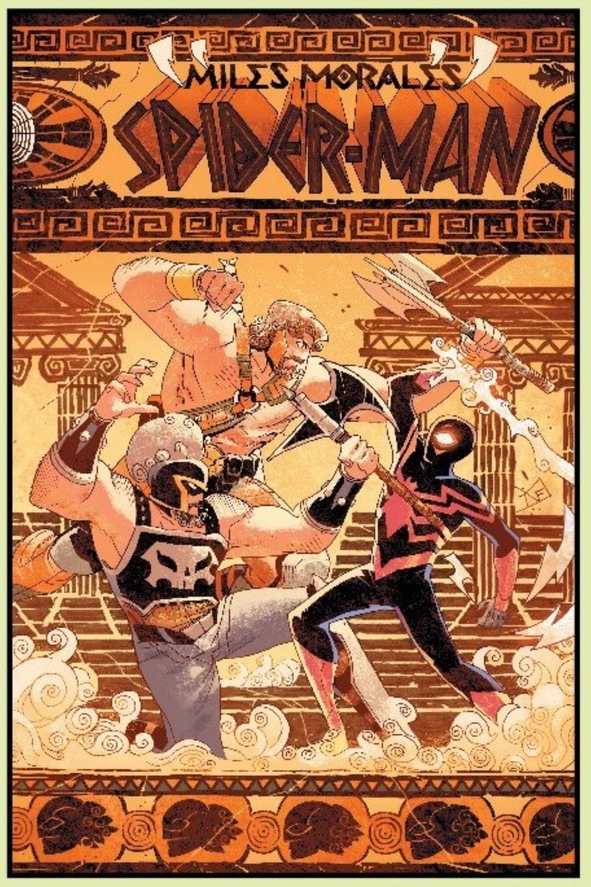
IF YOU COULD GIVE YOUR YOUNGER SELF ONE PIECE OF ADVICE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Don't worry about school—keep drawing and not paying attention in class. You'll make it one day as a comic book artist! (Wait… I think this message got through to me in the past, because that's exactly what I did anyway xD.)

NEED YOUR SPIDER-FIX WHILE YOU WAIT FOR NEXT ISSUE?

THWIP-LIST

- ❑ ALL-NEW VENOM #8
- ❑ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #7
- ❑ BRING ON THE BAD GUYS: GREEN GOBLIN #1
- ❑ SPIDER-GWEN: THE GHOST-SPIDER #15
- ❑ MARVEL KNIGHTS: THE WORLD TO COME #2
- ❑ MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #35



- ❑ BRING ON THE BAD GUYS: ABOMINATION #1
- ❑ DEATH OF THE SILVER SURFER #2
- ❑ EDDIE BROCK: CARNAGE #6
- ❑ SPIDER-GIRL #2
- ❑ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #8
- ❑ GWENPOOL #3
- ❑ JEFF THE LAND SHARK #2
- ❑ SPIDER-VERSE VS. VENOMVERSE #3

EMERALD BENSADOUN, **KAITLYN LINDTVEDT** & **KAEDEN McGAHEY** - Assistant Editors
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PANEL OF THE MONTH:

MARVEL KNIGHTS: THE WORLD TO COME #2
page 18, panel 12
art by JOE QUESADA

EDGE OF THE VARIANT-VERSE

We in the Spider-Office are no stranger to variants, we've got a Spider-Verse full of 'em. It's hard to narrow it down, but check out our favorite variant cover of the month.

SPIDER-GIRL #2
Variant Cover by
NOGI SAN

GAMMA CORNER

IS HE SPIDER, OR IS HE SYMBIOTE...OR IS HE NEITHER?

All Hulk ever wanted was to be left alone—and now he's got his wish. Alone at last, Hulk can finally get some peace and quiet…if only he can get his past to stop echoing in his mind.

YOU'RE ONLY AS ALONE AS YOU FEEL, HULK.

It's in this moment that Hulk meets a young boy who will make him question everything he believes about himself. Is he man, or is he monster? Or is he both?

INCREDIBLE HULK #27
On sale 7/30

CHECK OUT:

ASTONISHING SPIDER-MAN

This month on Marvel Unlimited, it's the surprise ending of our astonishing tale! Spider-Man's powers are growing at an incredible rate, and it takes him somewhere truly shocking!

MARVEL UNLIMITED

NEXT:

LOKI #1

DOOM #1

GREEN GOBLIN #1

ABOMINATION #1

RED SKULL #1

DORMAMMU #1

MEPHISTO #1

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